

Interview Summary

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.133(b), please make of record this summary of the March 11-12 interview and correspondence between Examiner and Applicants' representatives David M. LaPrairie and Christopher M. Francis. Applicants appreciate the opportunity given to interview Examiner Ford relative to the rejection of claim 1.

The Applicants' representatives initiated the interview to clarify the Examiner's confusion regarding the translation of allowed claims of related European patent EP 1 601 543, which is currently facing Opposition before the European Patent Office. Since the Examiner indicated in the Final Office Action and during the interview that he could not locate the translated claims, which had already been submitted with an Information Disclosure Statement on July 17, 2009, the undersigned sent an additional copy of translated claims to the Examiner via email for the Examiner's convenience. The undersigned notes that these translated claims of EP 1 601 543 were originally submitted with an Information Disclosure Statement on July 17, 2009. Notably, these translated claims of EP 1 601 543 match the translated claims of priority document FR 2 852 271. The translated claims of EP 1 601 543 were appended to a copy of EP 1 601 543 and submitted as a 26 page NPL document of the July 17, 2009 IDS. The translated claims of FR 2 852 271 were appended to a copy of FR 2 852 271 and submitted as a 38 page NPL document of the July 17, 2009 IDS.

In addition to discussing the submission of the translated claims, Mr. LaPrairie discussed that claim 1 of EP 1 601 543 is different than claim 1 of the presently pending application.

In the future, the undersigned invites the Examiner to telephone the undersigned if the Examiner needs additional clarification at any time during prosecution.